

TEXT OF TELEGRAM 80STATE 287210

ADP543

PAGE 01 STATE 287210
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-00 ADS-00 HA-06 SSQ-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 SPRS-02 /059 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:R G RICH:L:J SMITH:JCM
APPROVED BY EA/K:R G RICH
HA:T TULL (SUBS)

-----116107 280143Z /67
O 272301Z OCT 80
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

STATE 287210

E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: SHUN, SOPN, PINS, KS

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON KWANGJU COURT MARTIAL VERDICT

FOLLOWING GUIDANCE WAS PREPARED OCTOBER 27 FOR USE
BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN BUT SUBJECT HAS NOT YET ARISEN
AT BRIEFINGS:

BEGIN TEXT:

Q. WHAT IS THE USG REACTION TO THE SENTENCING OF 175
DEFENDANTS IN KOREA FOR THEIR ALLEGED ROLES IN THE
KWANGJU UPRISING?

A. I NOTE THAT MORE THAN HALF OF THOSE SENTENCES HAVE
ALREADY BEEN SUSPENDED BY THE KWANGJU MILITARY COURT.
IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT THE FIVE DEATH SENTENCES
(3 FOR SEDITION AND 2 FOR MURDER) WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE
APPEALED. (AT THAT MANY OF THOSE RECEIVING LESSER

PAGE 02 STATE 287210

SENTENCES WILL ALSO APPEAL. MOST SIGNIFICANTLY, HOWEVER,
WE KNOW LITTLE ABOUT THESE CASES, SINCE THE COURT MARTIAL
HAS ESSENTIALLY BEEN CONDUCTED IN SECRECY. WE ABHOR
SECRET TRIALS, WHEREVER CONDUCTED, AND HOPE THAT THE APPEAL
PROCESS WILL BE CONDUCTED OPENLY FOR ALL TO OBSERVE.

Q. IS THERE ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN THIS TRIAL AND
THE TRIAL OF KIM DAE JUNG?

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
☒ RELEASE ☐ DECLASSIFY
☐ EXCISE ☐ DECLASSIFY
☐ DENY IN PART
☐ DELETE Non-Responsive Info
FOIA Exemptions
PA Exemptions

MR Cases Only:

EO Citations

TS authority to.

☐ CLASSIFY as ☐ S or ☐ C OADR
☐ DOWNGRADE TS to ☐ S or ☐ C OADR

9003668

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

